

Aspirin

Taking a low dose of aspirin every day might help prevent polyps. However, taking aspirin daily may cause side effects, such as bleeding in the stomach or intestines. Talk with your doctor before starting to take aspirin daily.

Points to Remember

- Colon polyps are extra pieces of tissue that grow on the lining of the colon or rectum.
- Colon and rectal cancer usually start from polyps. Over time, some polyps can become cancerous. Removing polyps can help prevent cancer of the colon and rectum.
- Most people should start colon polyp screening at age 50. African Americans should start screening at age 45. Finding and removing polyps can help prevent cancer of the colon or rectum.

- Most people with colon polyps do not have symptoms.
- Your doctor may use the following to find out if you have colon polyps:
 - medical and family history
 - physical exam
 - stool test
 - flexible sigmoidoscopy
 - colonoscopy
 - virtual colonoscopy
 - lower gastrointestinal (GI) series
- Doctors treat colon polyps by removing them.